

# Maidenhead Advertiser

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**The latest news, sport, photos, letters, property and The Zone**

## Inside



All change: New rail timetable launches to mixed response  
**See p3**

Appeal to build 150 homes on Lodge Farm site rejected  
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Maids hungry for more after rise to second in the table  
**Sport p56**

# Election special: May back in as Tories celebrate

**Maidenhead candidate re-elected but with a reduced majority**



Theresa May is congratulated by her husband Philip on election night. Ref:132269-82

Opposition parties failed to spring a surprise as Theresa May was re-elected as Maidenhead's MP in last week's general election.

The former Prime Minister, who has held the seat for 22 years, received 32,620 votes in a comfortable victory for the Conservatives on Thursday, December 12 – but saw her majority reduced by about 7,500 as the Lib Dems improved on their 2017 result to finish second.

Burnham and Marlow have a new MP after Tory candidate Joy Morrissey beat independent Dominic Grieve to win the Beaconsfield seat.

Mr Grieve had held the seat for the Conservatives for more than 20 years but had the whip withdrawn earlier this year after rebelling against the Government over Brexit.

Windsor also remained blue, with Conservative Adam Afriye re-elected with a majority of more than 20,000.

Results and reaction on p10-13

**Merry Christmas to all our readers**

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News

# Theresa May re-elected as MP

Theresa May held onto her seat in Westminster after being re-elected as Maidenhead MP at the general election on Thursday, December 12, writes **George Roberts**. The candidates for all the parties – Pat McDonald for Labour, Joshua Reynolds for the Liberal Democrats, Emily Tomalin for the Green Party and Mrs May for the Conservatives, were at the count at the Magnet Leisure Centre, which ran through Thursday night and into the early hours of Friday.



The ballot papers are counted. Ref:132269-7

Pictures by: Ian Longthorne.



The result was read out by High Sheriff of Berkshire, Lucy Zeal. Ref:132269-65



Labour's Pat McDonald and Lib Dem Joshua Reynolds. Ref:132269-28




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Theresa May has been re-elected as Member of Parliament in the Maidenhead seat she has held for 22 years.

Polling stations closed at 10pm on Thursday, December 12, and in the early hours of Friday, at 3.40am, the declaration was made, revealing the Conservative candidate had received 32,620 votes, ahead of Liberal Democrat candidate Joshua Reynolds in second place with 13,774 votes.

Mrs May's majority is 18,896, down from 26,457 in 2017.

Labour's Pat McDonald won 7,882 votes and Green Party candidate Emily Tomalin receiving 2,216.

Giving her victory speech immediately after the result was announced at the Magnet Leisure Centre, Maidenhead, she said: "I'd like to thank my team; particularly among my team I'd like to thank my longest supporter, my husband Philip, but above all, I

would like to thank the people of the Maidenhead constituency, who once again have put their faith and trust in me as their Member of Parliament.

"Being a Member of Parliament is a huge honour, a huge privilege, and I do consider it an enormous privilege to represent the people of Maidenhead.



Theresa May gives her acceptance speech. Ref:132269-69

"But it also bears responsibility, and over the coming years, I will look to hold that responsibility and work for the people of this constituency as I have done for the last 22 years."

Referring to the landslide majority the Conservative were heading towards, she added: "Tonight is an important night, because this is an important election, and we are actually seeing our country being set on a clear path forward.

"We have seen through this election that most people in this country just want us to get Brexit sorted and move this country on, and that is exactly what we will do."

In total, 56,772 ballot papers were counted, a turnout of 74.04 per cent in the constituency, down from 76.72 per cent in the 2017 election. There were also 278 spoiled ballot papers, compared to 108 in 2017.

## MP reflects on priorities and her reduced majority

Immediately after winning the seat, Theresa May said she would represent her constituents the best she could, and said that trains were one of her top priorities.

She told the Advertiser: "I am very grateful to the people of Maidenhead for

voting me back in.

"It's a huge privilege and a huge honour and I look forward to representing them, working hard for them on all the issues that matter to them.

"Things like making sure we keep fast train services into London for both

Maidenhead and Twyford stations.

"These are the issues that matter on a day-to-day basis to me.

Speaking about her slightly dented majority, she added: "Over the recent elections we have seen the Labour party and

the Liberal Democrats vying for second place. Last time around Labour were second; this time around the Liberal Democrats were second.

"If you look at the majority I've got you'll see that I'm pretty comfortable with that."



# pledging to 'get Brexit sorted'



Theresa May with her husband Philip await the results of the count.  
Ref:132269-51



56,772 ballot papers were submitted. Ref:132269-11



Mrs May is congratulated on her victory. Ref:132269-76

## Defeated candidates speak of the result



Joshua Reynolds

The Liberal Democrats' candidate **Joshua Reynolds** won 13,774 vote, taking a bite out of Theresa May's majority and securing a second-place finish.

Speaking on Twitter on Friday, the 20-year-old said: "Huge thank you to the nearly 14,000 people who supported me in yesterday's election."

"Thank you also to the team who made everything possible."

"I will continue fighting for Maidenhead as a local councillor and as a



Pat McDonald

campaigner to make our town a better place for us to live in."

Labour's **Pat McDonald**, who won 11,261 votes in 2017, slipped into third place this year, gaining 7,882 votes.

He said: "Unfortunately our leadership has not broken through. Young people, vast numbers of young people are voting for us, and that's fantastic for the future, but clearly we have a problem at the top."

"We have betrayed the vast numbers of ordinary working



Emily Tomalin

people, the poorest in society, who we are supposed to protect. We won't be there for them for five years."

The Green Party candidate **Emily Tomalin** took 2,216 votes, amounting to 3.9 per cent of the total ballot papers.

This was more than double 907 votes the Green candidate received in the 2017 election.

After the results were announced, she said: "Greens are doing better, we are rising throughout the country."

"I have doubled my vote."

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